



**1904**

**GOLDEN JUBILEE**

**LOCAL 496**

**50 YEARS OF PROGRESS**

**1954**

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# Officers Local Union 496

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President .....	W. R. READ
Vice-President .....	STAN NELSON
Treasurer .....	D. U. LARRATT
Recording Secretary .....	A. V. WEBBER
Business Agent & Financial Secretary .....	ROBT. ADAM

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## EXECUTIVE BOARD

S. Nelson	J. W. LaTour	A. V. Webber
A. Mitchell	A. Gardiner	E. S. Wilson
T. Dalgleish	P. P. Goosen	G. Keeling

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## FINANCE COMMITTEE

G. Keeling	L. Tackaberry	A. R. Edgar
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## TRUSTEES

✓ W. H. Grant	D. U. Larratt	W. R. Read
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## 50th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

D. Larratt	A. Gardiner	D. Fisher
S. Nelson	W. R. Read	A. Webber
C. Soper	G. E. McGregor	A. Echtner

Inner Guard .....	H. R. Green
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# President's Message to L. U. 496



*by W. R. (Bill) Road*

It gives me a great deal of pleasure at this time to congratulate Local Union 496 on its Fifty Years of progress and success. In working with the Fiftieth Anniversary Committee looking up old records of union activity and old union members, one does not realize the great struggle our older members had to put up with to gain better conditions. The older members of 496 are to be congratulated on the conditions of work and high standards of living which they have brought forth to

our younger members to enjoy. Their strength was great as they banded together but they always used this strength in a sensible way in dealing with the employers. In the past I have had the pleasure of meeting a number of the old timers and when you get them on a story of old, they seem to be able to go on forever. Their stories are not only interesting but some are very educational.

I would like to advise all the members of 496 at this time to pay a great deal of interest to the articles in this Fiftieth Year book. It gives a great deal of information of the past of local 496. I urge the younger members in particular to come out and support your union and when asked to act on committees, take the job. At first the work is new to you but great knowledge is gained not only in the activity of your local union but it also helps you to become a leader in your own community.

It gives me a great deal of pleasure as a young member in this great organization to be holding the position of President of Local Union 496 on this great occasion. I have had the chance to work with the different committees set up in the local and the officers and members of these committees are to be congratulated on their great interest and fine efforts they have put into the job at hand.

In closing I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Local Union 496 on their fifty years of success and may the next fifty years be as prosperous as the past which was enjoyed by so many.

Compliments of

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City of Calgary.*

**A. CARSON ROCKLEY,  
Manager**

**ALD. BRUCE WATSON  
Production Manager, I.T.U. 448**

# History of Local 496

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On this historic occasion when Local Union 496 of the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada are celebrating their Fiftieth Anniversary, we would like to congratulate our chartered members who had the foresight to instigate our present local.

On December 24th, 1904, Local 496 received their first charter and within thirty days of obtaining it, the small but efficient membership realized the bargaining powers of a consolidated body. The first highlight in the history of 496 occurred January 2, 1905 when the first meeting was held, creating a work stoppage in order to obtain a standard wage rate of forty cents, previous to this there was not a standard rate for the Calgary area, the average rate being twenty-five cents.

William Head, of the Head Plumbing Co. was the first employer to negotiate with 496. Without hesitation Mr. Head agreed to a set rate of forty cents.

Our present membership is greatly indebted to the late R. J. Priestley, our first president, who held this position for several years, he being the main instigator of Local Union 496. As a matter of interest Brother Priestley was the 7th Vice President of the United Association.

Through collective bargaining the following ten years saw a slow but steady progress for Local 496 members. Increases in pay were at an average rate of two and one half cents per hour per year.

During this period Brother E. P. Fletcher was appointed Plumbing Inspector for the city of Calgary. Mr. Fletcher formed the first City Plumbing By-law and instituted the examining board for licensing of plumbers, which greatly improved the standard of plumbing in this city.

Among other improvements made at this time was the adoption of a nine hour day from the ten, this occurring about 1910. Then the six day work week gave way to the five and a half day week. Finally in 1911 the eight hour day was adopted. Wages by this time had climbed to the fifty cent mark while membership had reached 250 from the original 15 or 20.

In 1913 the business address of Local 496 was transferred from a place known as Nolan's Hall which was situated on 8th Avenue where the Victoria Hotel now stands, to the present Labor Temple.

A building boom existed at this stage of our history with a number of schools and other buildings under construction.

However during and after the First World War the membership declined considerably due of course to many brothers who joined the services.

During the roaring twenties conditions in general were quite favorable

and Local 496 offered suggestions to improve safety measures, to the Workmen's Compensation Board.

In approximately 1928 the forty-hour week was negotiated and obtained and still exists to the present day. Then on that dark day of October 24, 1929 the world's markets collapsed with dire effects on all working conditions in general, bringing about many hardships for the following ten years, this era is known as the Hungry Thirties, the older brothers will recall the battle of Mission Hill in 1933.

Then in 1934 negotiations for an increase in pay from ninety cents collapsed and strike action was taken which was never legally settled.

In 1935 the Alberta Industrial Standards Act came into effect.

The United Association organized a death benefit scheme for all members of the U.A. On Oct. 1, 1936 a Certificate of Proficiency under provisions of the Tradesmen's Qualification Act was required by anyone working on steam plumbing or gas installations.

Local Union 496 played a large part in the establishment of the Provincial Apprenticeship Act in 1938.

In 1939 new City Gas By-laws were accepted.

Once again the wheels of war began turning with the beginning of World War Two. This brought about an increase in employment, greatly improving conditions as far as work was concerned. Many of our brothers joined the call to arms leaving a shortage of qualified tradesmen.

In 1940 the Holiday Pay Act was established at the rate of two per cent and increased through the efforts of 496 to the present four per cent in 1950.

There were a great many controls and restrictions brought about by the war such as the freezing of wages, these being set up by the Wartime Prices and Trade Board.

Since the Second World War Local 496 and its members have enjoyed reasonably prosperous years with most members steadily employed. Henceforth it is with anticipation that we look toward the future for continued progress and improvement. May the foresight that existed in our elder Brothers be the spirit that will guide our younger and future Brothers.

## ***Trotter & Morton Ltd.***

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**204 - Fifth Street West,**

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# Greetings and Congratulations

*by Martin P. Durkin, General President*



*To the Officers and Members of  
Local Union 496:*

On this, the Golden Anniversary of Local Union 496, it is my pleasure and privilege to extend to all of you, in my own behalf and in behalf of the General Officers of the United Association, our warmest congratulations and very best wishes for the future.

Local Union 496 had a very unique beginning. It was chartered on Christmas Eve in 1904. A leader and early moving force in Local Union 496 was the very distinguished Vice-President of the United Association, the late Brother Jack Priestley. Before coming to Calgary Brother Priestley had

already experienced a successful career as Secretary for Local Union 46 in Toronto. He was drawn westward, however, to this thriving young community on the eastern slope of the Great Canadian Rocky Mountains. To Calgary Brother Priestley brought the tradition of progress and enterprise, the highest ideals of the Labor Movement, which have always been possessed in good measure by the organizing pioneers of the United Association.

Local Union 496 had 30 charter members. Today your union has 424 members in good standing. This very substantial growth reflects the fact well known to the General Officers of the United Association, that the leadership and members of your Local Union have always been in the forefront of the Labor Movement in Calgary. I am sure they will continue over the years to give repeated evidence of this spirit of progress and leadership.

## Congratulations to LOCAL 496

from

### **Local Union 46**

Toronto, Ontario



The coming decade will be a challenging period for all of our local unions. We are now entering the Atomic Age in which new sources of energy and power are being harnessed for peacetime uses. Already we have the atomic submarine as the forerunner of the atomic transport. Already nuclear energy is replacing coal and oil or water power in producing electricity. Recently the armed services of the United States asked for bids for producing packaged reactor units easily carried by air to outlying defence areas for producing heat and power to service military installations. These events stress the tremendous developments which we may expect in the near future — developments so great that no one can clearly foresee their exact course or outcome.

No industry is more important in the construction of atomic power plants than that of plumbing and pipefitting, which furnishes 40 per cent of the manpower. New alloys, new processes, new methods of fabrication, and new skills are required in our industry, due to the Atomic Age.

These challenges of a new age must be met by the United Association and its local union in two ways: FIRST, every local union must have effective apprenticeship and journeyman training programs to provide our industry with well-rounded skilled craftsmen. If we fail to train apprentices in adequate numbers we will not measure up to our duty to our contractors and to the public. So far we have barely scratched the surface in meeting the needs of the industry in obtaining skilled men through the apprenticeship approach. Ultimate failure to meet our responsibilities will only bring hardship upon our own members who do not possess the skills required of them. A successful apprentice training program, however, will place any local union in a strong position to face the future.

SECOND, we must be ever alert to new developments and new industries growing up as a part of the new era. We must make doubly certain that skilled craftsmen of the United Association are employed on work which is rightfully ours. The American Federation of Labor has been very much aware of this need and, as a result the Los Angeles Convention recently directed President Meany to establish a Permanent Committee on Atomic Energy whose mission is to advise on all developments and recommend necessary action. Your General Officers are equally conscious of the problems and will not spare any effort to prevent our work from getting away from us during this period of change.

Most important, however, is the alert and cooperative action of our local unions ensuring that the hard won union standards of our craft are not destroyed by change but instead are strengthened and improved. It is my hope that Local Union 496 and other local unions of the United Association will meet these problems of the future intelligently, aggressively and successfully.

# Greetings and Best Wishes

*by Edward J. Hillcock*  
*General Secretary Treasurer*



It is with particular pleasure that I extend to the officers and members of Local Union 496 my sincere congratulations on the occasion of celebrating the Golden Anniversary of your affiliation with the United Association.

We have gone a long way together, and many benefits have been gained for our members, but not without hard work, heartaches, discouragement and hardships.

If the Charter Members of your Local, or those having a membership of long standing, would only take the time to pass on to our younger members the history of the Local Union during its early development, I am sure there would be a much greater appreciation of the Local and of the United Association.

Today, because of the deep interest and courage of those who petitioned the United Association for a charter and those who have followed in their footsteps, our Labor Unions are now recognized as important segments in our national and international affairs.

We must, together, continually strive to maintain this important position because only by national recognition can we obtain our fair share of the profits of our labor.

Today, as it was fifty years ago, we must work together earnestly, intelligently and honestly to overcome the many obstacles that are placed in our path. With this type of thinking and the whole-hearted cooperation of all members of the United Association, we can be sure of a high standard of living for all.

Congratulations to all of you, and my sincere wish for a prosperous future.

*Congratulations and Best Wishes to*

**LOCAL 496**

from

**Local Union 170**

**Vancouver, B.C.**

# GREETINGS TO LOCAL 496 FROM

<p><b>L.U. 813</b></p> <p>Peterborough,</p> <p><b>ONT.</b></p>	<p><b>L.U. 593</b></p> <p>London,</p> <p><b>ONT.</b></p>	<p><b>L.U. 292</b></p> <p>Montreal,</p> <p><b>P.Q.</b></p>
<p><b>L.U. 144</b></p> <p>Montreal,</p> <p><b>P.Q.</b></p>	<p><b>L.U. 56</b></p> <p>Halifax,</p> <p><b>N.S.</b></p>	<p><b>L.U. 179</b></p> <p>Regina,</p> <p><b>SASK.</b></p>
<p><b>L.U. 409</b></p> <p>Moose Jaw,</p> <p><b>SASK.</b></p>	<p><b>L.U. 488</b></p> <p>Edmonton,</p> <p><b>ALTA.</b></p>	<p><b>L.U. 67</b></p> <p>Hamilton,</p> <p><b>ONT.</b></p>
<p><b>L.U. 552</b></p> <p>Windsor,</p> <p><b>ONT.</b></p>	<p><b>L.U. 479</b></p> <p>Winnipeg,</p> <p><b>MAN.</b></p>	<p><b>L.U. 221</b></p> <p>Kingston,</p> <p><b>ONT.</b></p>



## Best Wishes and Congratulations

*from Hon. N. A. Willmore  
Minister of Industries and Labour*

---

You are marking a half century of service to your community and your association and on behalf of The Department of Industries and Labour I should like to contribute my congratulations.

Those fifty years have seen tremendous advancements in all phases of our economy especially in industrial development in which your association is premier, interested. Opportunities are greater and our resultant standard of living is higher than ever before in our history.

We all take a good deal of pride in looking back on the various milestones of our growth. As in the past there will be problems to face in the future but since Albertans have a traditional prime optimism we look forward with anticipation.

## *Best Wishes*

FROM THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

of

**THE CALGARY TRADES and  
LABOR COUNCIL**

to

**LOCAL 496**

ON THEIR

**Fiftieth Anniversary**

R. SCOTT, President

R. P. RINTOJL, Secretary



# The DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES AND LABOR is a SERVICE DEPARTMENT . . .

---

Apprenticeship Board and  
Board of Industrial Relations  
stand ready to assist you at all times

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## CALGARY

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Board of Industrial Relations,  
Phone 28340  
Provincial Building,

## EDMONTON

Apprenticeship Board,  
Phone 816587  
Administration Building,  
Board of Industrial Relations,  
Phone 816574  
Administration Building,

---

J. E. OBERHOLTZER  
Deputy Minister

HONOURABLE N. A. WILLMORE  
Minister

*50th Anniversary*

## DINNER and DANCE

Presentation of  
**Long Service Button and Life Membership**  
to  
**Pioneer Members of U.A. Local Union 496**

★ ★ ★

### *Menu*

Menue a la UA 496

Steam-Cock-Tail

Cream of Cutting Oil Soup

Blow Torch Turkey

Solder Paste Sauce

Malleable Spuds

$\frac{1}{2}$ " Reducing Peas

Red Lead Melba

Assorted Lead Cakes

Boiler X Coffee

Tank Ball Rolls & Pipe Dope Butter

# Programme

## THE QUEEN

One Minute Silence for Deceased Brothers

Grace Rev J L Pottruff

M C D (Dick) Larratt

W R (Bill) READ President, Local Union 496

His Worship Mayor Mackay

Greetings from  
Honourable N A Willmore  
Minister of Industries and Labor

R P Rinfoul  
President, Alberta Federation of Labor

Clifford Priestley  
General Organizer

R Scott  
President, Calgary Trades and Labor Council

J Connolly  
General Organizer

John Bruce  
General Organizer

SPEAKER G C Archambault  
Vice-President

## REFRESHMENTS

## DANCING

Music by HAROLD SAKLOFSEY and His Band

# Greetings and Best Wishes

by JOHN M. BRUCE



On behalf of the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of the United States and Canada, I desire to express to the members of Local Union 496 of Calgary, our gratitude and sincere appreciation on this their 50th Anniversary Celebration. In the struggle and trials for the advancement of the best interests of the workers, as represented by the International Trade Union Movement Local Union 496, were in the forefront of the fight and too much praise could not be given to those pioneers who so willingly gave of their time and effort to lay the foundation of our present successful Local Union.

To those who carry on and who share the work, we extend our very best wishes and trust the work will be carried on with the same effort and determination and they will display the same courage and fortitude that made the name of Local Union 496 recognized as one of the most progressive within our Association. We trust that the best interests of the workers will be preserved and a renewal of our faith in the power and usefulness of the great international free trade union movement working in its progressive way to improve the wages and standard of life of the great mass of workers who have to toil and laying the foundation that our trade union will be recognized as one of the bulwarks of democracy.

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1907



Back row left to right G. Henderson, \*Ted Brown, W. H. Grant Centre row Walter Weir \*J. Meier \*B. Nichol Front \*M. Ehrhart

\* Passed away

Geo Henderson retired and still resides in Calgary

W. Hume Grant, head maintenance for the Leighton Building in the city and chairman of 486 area fund.

Walter Weir operates a plumbing and heating business under his own name.

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# Greetings and Best Wishes



*by Clifford Priestley*  
*General Organizer*

---

I must be with great deal of pride that the officers and members of local union 496 are celebrating this, the 55th anniversary and I would like to convey my kind regards for a successful celebration.

The Charter of Local Union 496 was issued December 24, 1904, Christmas Eve, and I wonder if the thirty Charter members realized at the time, that they were giving to the Plumbers and Steamfitters trade in Calgary one of the

finest Christmas gifts that could be given. They established a local union that, down through the years has played a major part in establishing working conditions and raising the standard of living, not only for the members and their families, of Local 496, but for all who labored in the City of Calgary.

I do not know how many Charter members of Local 496 are still with us, but the ones who are must feel very proud at this time in knowing that the seed which they helped to plant back in 1904 has grown into one of the finest labor organizations within the American Federation of Labor in Canada, and is a credit to the Building Trades and the United Association in the city of Calgary. We must also pay tribute to those members who are no longer with us, for they too played a major part in helping to make Calgary a better place in which to live. We must also give recognition to those members of local 496, who down through the years have carried on with the same determination so that local 496 would still be in the forefront in the struggle for better working conditions.

If the younger members of local 496 will just stop and reflect for a moment and ask themselves this question: how did all the conditions that I now enjoy come about? They will find that the answer is, by the untiring efforts of the members of local 496 in the past, along with other organizations in the trade union movement. Workmen's Compensation, Unemployment Insurance, Holidays with pay and many other conditions that are enjoyed by the working men and women were only established through the efforts of organized labor and local 496.

and the United Association played a major part in the establishing of these conditions, they did not grow on trees, nor did they just happen.

A union is just as strong as its membership, so let's get together and endeavour to do a good job in the future. Let every member of local 496 carry his "Union Card" in his heart and not just in his pocket. Local 496 has the membership in numbers but they must be more than numbers, and become active trade unionists. Let us leave behind the idea of "Let George do it" and do it ourselves, and make local 496 and the United Association an organization to be proud of. Today we need organization more than ever before. If we are to protect the gains that have been made since local 496 was instituted, Let us go forward with the determination that we are going to make this a brighter and better place for all who toil.

In conclusion I would like to say a word about the wives and sweethearts of the members of local 496, as they have a lot to do with the success of the local. They sacrifice many hours alone in order that their husbands or sweethearts can look after the business of the local and thus protect the workers of a'l. I would like to congratulate the wives and sweethearts of members of local 496 in forming the Ladies Auxiliary. By doing this they have shown their loyalty to local 496 and are assisting greatly in the social activities. God Bless Them.

I would like to thank the officers and members of local 496 for the splendid co-operation and support they have given me since I was elected as a General Organizer.

Remember Local 496 is yours. — Don't let it down.

## ***It Pays to Shop at*** **EATON'S**

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**"Goods Satisfactory or Money Refunded"**

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CANADA



## Congratulations and Best Wishes

*by Joseph Connelly  
General Organizer*

To the Officers, Members and their Families of Local 496, Calgary, Alberta

GREETINGS: At this time I would like to convey my kind fraternal wishes for a successful 50th Anniversary celebration. Local 496 has many memories of the past fifty years to be proud of. It has had its ups and downs and because of the growth or expansion in this territory is now becoming one of our strongest local unions in the Province of Alberta and throughout the United Association. Let us continue to go

forward with the same courage and thoughts combined with the experience of our older members and the determination of our younger members to make this a better world to live in.

We must at all times protect the jurisdiction of the plumbing and pipe-fitting industry and create a better apprenticeship training for the people of our industry. If we do this, we will make this a better trade for us to work at and also provide a better standard of living to our families. Today we need organization more than ever before. If we are going to protect the gains we have made in the past years, with greater organization we can still go forward and it is the duty of every member of the United Association to play his part.

I would like to make special mention to the wives and sweethearts of the members of Local 496 as they are often overlooked. These are our silent partners who give us the incentive to do a good job. They sacrifice many hours alone so that their husbands and friends can attend to the work of the Local Union and should be given a lot of credit for our success. So hats off to the ladies.

Better apprenticeship training makes better journeymen for the future.

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## Heating

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# Greetings from L. A. 79

*by Mrs. Goodall, President*

---

The Ladies Auxiliary No. 79 take this opportunity to congratulate Local Union 496 on the splendid record it has had in the past 50 years. Our Auxiliary, having its Charter presented on Feb. 9th 1953 by Mr. C. Priestly (with Mrs. Priestly present) is facing the same problem that 496 faced 50 years ago.

The meetings have been in the main well attended. We have sponsored several Dances, and last year — a very successful Xmas Party was held for the children, with approximately 500 people in attendance.

Our Aim is to help local 496 in all its activities, social or otherwise — as the need arises.

In passing, we would like to say that we feel that local 496 has made great progress in 50 years, and are confident that even greater progress will be made in the future. Our sincerest congratulations to local 496.

## Congratulations to LOCAL 496

from

### Local Union 180

Prince Rupert, B.C.

## Congratulations to LOCAL 496

**W. H. CUNNINGHAM & HILL, LTD.**

PLUMBING and HEATING SPECIALTIES and TOOLS

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# As An Old Timer Sees It



*by Alexander Milligan*

In accordance with your request for a brief sketch regarding conditions prevailing in the plumbing and steamfitting trades in Calgary previous to, and at the time the charter was granted in December 1904. I submit the following data from memory of the doings and happenings of those days now 50 years ago.

I came to Calgary in the fall of 1903 then in the North West Territories, and went to work for the firm of Young and Burnett this firm together

with the Wm. Head Co. being the two main shops in Calgary at that time but if my memory serves me right one or two other shops were also in existence on a small scale but at the moment I cannot recall their names.

In the late summer and early fall of 1904 the forming of a Local Union began to be talked about which seemed to meet with the general approval, and as there were then seven or eight plumbers and steamfitters in each of the above mentioned shops, a meeting was arranged in a hall upstairs about where the Victoria Hotel now stands. A goodly number turned out and as a result the decision was taken to form a Local Union of the United Association. This meeting was held in October 1904.

About two weeks later another meeting was held and officers elected and the Local Union was launched on its way. The first president of my memory serves me correctly being R. J. Priestley at that time, and for many years later 7th Vice President of the United Association, a splendid type and one of nature's gentlemen who rendered splendid service in the early years of L. U. 496.

It was at this meeting that the decision to apply for a charter was taken. All those present of which there was one chipped in one dollar and either the president or a committee was appointed to apply for and forward the necessary data's to head office asking that a charter be issued, which was later done after certain other information had been supplied. The charter naming us Local Union No. 496 being received early in December 1904.

As Local Union 496 was now a going concern among the first decisions taken was to ask for an hourly wage of 40 cents an hour to come into effect on 2nd January 1905 for journeymen Plumbers and Steamfitters something present day members of 496 might well reflect on. The three or four employers of that day were notified accordingly to which they paid scant attention, and on the second day of the New Year as no word had been received from any of the employers accepting the 40 cent rate we went on strike. The weather quite conveniently went to around 40° below and half the town was frozen up with no plumbers to remedy things. About the second day of the strike Mr. Head came up to the hall to see what was the matter. He was advised by his foreman our president what was wanted and to which he

agreed and as Mr Young of Young and Burnett could hardly do otherwise our first strike came to an end before it was rightly started

Previous to the 40 cent rate coming into effect the rate was what you could get mostly 30 to 35 cents an hour mainly the first named. Only one plumber by the name of A. Green in the Young and Burnett shop got the 35 cent rate and I believe the Head shop foreman Mr E. P. Fletcher later City Plumbing Inspector had a 40 cent rate so it can be clearly seen the first strike brought much needed benefit to the 20 or so members of the Local at that time.

At the time under review the hour of labor was 8 hours a day the working week 6 days a week something the present day members might well reflect on, and fully realize that it is only by collective effort that better conditions can be obtained.

During the years that followed steady progress was made, the 10 hour day giving way to the 9 hour day the 6 day week to the 5 1/2 day week, the Saturday afternoon off being obtained around 1909 or 1910, and finally to the 8 hour day perhaps around 1911 or 1912 about which time wages had climbed to about the 50 cent mark, or a little more mostly by an annual increase of 2 1/2 cents an hour all of which had to be fought for and not often more than 2 1/2 cents at a time was obtained

In the year 1908 the City Council decided to appoint a Plumbing Inspector for the city which was then starting to grow quite rapidly from the 6,000

# CONGRATULATIONS

to

## LOCAL 496

on its

### Fiftieth Anniversary

from

## Calgary Building Trades Council

T. RICHTER,  
President

E. CRAVEN,  
Treasurer

G. D. MURDOCK,  
Secretary

population or thereabout in 903 The late E. P. Fletcher was appointed who, in a short time, framed the first City Plumbing By-law and instituted the City Examining Board and licensing of plumbers, all of which did much to greatly improve the standard of plumbing in the city

Mr Fletcher was an excellent inspector and a fine gentleman, and I am sure did as much or more, than anyone I know to elevate the plumbing trade in the City of Calgary, and to those of us who knew him best was always held in the highest regard In my opinion the late R. J. Priestley and the late E. P. Fletcher both did excellent work in the early days, and were responsible for the success that attended the Local Union to a very large extent

During the years 904-11-12 the membership of the Local Union increased rapidly and as I was privileged to be Financial Secretary and Treasurer at that time I recall having over 250 members on the books in 92 quite a change from the 5 to 20 at the start of the Local Union, going on as Business Agent that year until 1915 during which year the membership dropped about as rapidly as it had increased earlier owing to the impact of the First World War

On my return to the city in 1919 I was not as active in Local Union affairs as had previously been as I was out on my farm for several years before returning to the trade and as I have dealt more with the early days of the Local Union I am quite sure any information concerning later years can be supplied by any of my old friends, Joe Nutta, Charles Adams, George Dalgleish, Hope Grant, Art Drury, Bob Archibald, etc

In 1936 the writer went in the employ of the Dept of Industries and Labor as examiner for the Plumbing, Gasfitting and Steamfitting trades under the provisions of the Tradesmen's Qualification Act, and in 1938 was transferred to the Dept of Public Health as Provincial Plumbing inspector drawing up the Provincial Plumbing Regulations which came into effect at that time and instituting plumbing inspection over the entire Province.

Looking back over the 50 years that Local Union 496 has now been in existence it is correct to say that it has been well served by a loyal and devoted band of officers over the years, most of whom it was my privilege to be associated with I have no hesitation in saying that the present membership have a lot to be thankful for, in the work and effort put forward by these men over the many years Many now departed have richly earned the respect and admiration in which they were held because of their work and efforts on behalf of their fellow tradesmen

The present members of Local Union 496 do wish to celebrate the 50th Anniversary we would like to congratulate our charter members who had benefitted materially by being associated together and thus obtain benefits collectively that would be impossible to achieve individually.



# Greetings from Alberta Provincial Pipe Trade Assoc.

*by M. O. Christink, President*

## GREETINGS

Back in 1950 some members of Local Union 496 got together with a few brothers from Local Union 488, Edmonton, to discuss the need of forming a Provincial body. After some discussion and correspondence a meeting was called for the purpose of setting up this Association.

The meeting was held in Calgary and the brothers present from L.U. 488, Edmonton, 780, Lethbridge and 496, Calgary.

Bro. D. Larratt opened the first meeting by outlining what was behind the calling the meeting then asked if the meeting was in favor of forming such a body. All agreed and the election of officers followed.

Bro. C. Priestley (then business agent of 488) was elected President. Bro. D. Larratt of Local 496 was elected secretary.

An application to head office of the United Association for a charter for the Alberta Provincial Pipe Trades Association was ordered by the members present and in due course the charter was received and duly ratified by General Organizer C. P. Priestley. We would like to note at this time that Brother Priestley had been appointed General Organizer of the U.A., thus we lost our first president.

Bro. M. O. Christink was elected to the chair to fill in the vacancy made by Bro. Priestley's resignation.

At the time the charter was installed a full slate of officers were elected in accordance with the U.A. constitution. Those elected were President M. O. Christink, Edmonton, Vice President as Brother J. Watson, Red Deer, Secretary-Treasurer, D. Larratt, Calgary. Executive members were Bro. J. Watson, L.U. 826, Red Deer, F. Sherring, L.U. 780, Lethbridge, M. O. Christink, L.U. 488, Edmonton and D. Larratt, L.U. 496, Calgary.

Uniform working conditions and apprenticeship training have been the main object of this Association through the years of its existence.

The executive of this Association in conjunction with the Provincial Executive of the Master Plumbing and Heating Contractors Association have joined together in what is known as the Joint Conference Board and have worked closely together in the setting up of a better apprenticeship training program and as a result it is safe to say that we have gained our objective inasmuch as the Provincial Government apprenticeship schools are using the U.A. text books in the course of training for plumbing and steamfitting trades.

This joint board has met on several occasions with very good open and intelligent discussions taking place.

At the time of this message of greetings to Local 496, The Alberta Provincial Pipe Trades Association is composed of the following Locals: L.U. 780, Lethbridge, L.U. 81, Calgary, L.U. 496, Calgary, L.U. 826, Red Deer, L.U. 488, Edmonton.

With best wishes and continued success.

# From the Photographic Files .

Weyburn 1922



6 Daigleth Sr — middle row — with mustache — retired — was in Calgary still a member — Jim Mitchell second from right bottom row — retired — was in Calgary, still a member



Underwood Block

1904

LOCAL 496

1954

*United Association Journeymen and Apprentices  
of the Pipe Fitting Industry of the  
United States and Canada*

*Request the pleasure of the company of  
Mr. W.B. Grant*

---

*at the*

*Golden Anniversary Banquet & Dance  
Saturday, December 6th at 6 p.m.*

*Palliser Hotel*

*Palliser Room*

R.S.V.P. LABOR TEMPLE





# UNITED ASSOCIATION

of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and  
Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada

Proudly Presents to Brother

W. H. GRANT

Local Union No. 146

for his national and local service in honor of  
his 25 years of service to our Association

Presented the 30 day of June 1954

*John P. Gardner*  
Grand Master

*Charles J. Gifford*  
Grand Secretary

MEMBER'S SIGNATURE



*City of Calgary*  
*Extends*  
*Greetings*

The City of Calgary and the citizens of Calgary  
join in extending best wishes to the Plumbers Union  
Local 496 on their 50th Anniversary.



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